

Project Proposal

Proposal Title: Duck Creek Aspen Regeneration

Proposal Number: 1481

DWR Region: Southern Region

Lead Agency: USFS

County: Kane

Project Manager: Nate Yorgason

PM Phone: 4358656113

Regional Priority: Within Focus Area

Project Type: Terrestrial Habitat

Proposed Start Date: 7/1/2009

Project Location: Near Duck Creek village on Cedar City Ranger District

Project Description: Rx burn on 167 acres that has been thinned and slashed in effort to promote Aspen regeneration.

Description of Problem/Need: Many aspen stands in the Duck Creek area are decadent and transitioning to a spruce/fir forest. Aspen treatments are intended to increase aspen regeneration, decrease the spruce/fir encroachment, and reduce the risk of a large-scale high intensity wildfire from spreading to or from National Forest lands, which may threaten or burn into public and private property and facilities within the Duck Creek area. Private lands within the proposed area have been subdivided and have an estimated 2,300+ seasonal residents and businesses (2006 estimates 4500+ lots built out by 2010). All private lands are in-holdings within the Cedar City R.D. administered land base. The fuels are being treated by reducing surface fuels, decrease ladder fuels, thin crown fuels, promote fire tolerant species, and reduce the chance of landscape-scale fire behavior.

Objectives: Burn the units to reduce fuel loads to 3-5 tons per acre, have less than 30% overstory mortality, and stimulate aspen regeneration.

Relevance to Strategic Plans: Helps meet conservation agreement strategies for Northern Goshawk habitat improvement. Helps meet habitat restoration goals for mule deer and elk per Herd Management Unit #28 plans. Helps meet conservation strategies outlined in the Partners in Flight Avian Conservation Plan for at risk species in aspen habitats. Meets Dixie Forest Plan habitat restoration goals and objectives.

This is part of an overall fuels reduction plan around at-risk communities around Duck Creek. The aspen treatment units within this project have two objectives, reduce ladder and ground fuels and improve aspen habitat by promoting suckering of fire resistant aspen and removing encroachment of fire intolerant white fir, and Douglas fir.

Potential Risks: Risk of fire escaping and location is near to numerous structures.

Proposed Methods: We will construct hand line around the units, install a hose lay (depending on fuel conditions and vehicle access), burn the units, and hold them for the appropriate time as specified in the burn plan.

Shapefile Name: S:/DWR/HPD-2010/GIS Shape Files/1481.shp

Seed Source:

UPCD Reg Team Coord Date:

Proposed NEPA Action:

Proposed Arch Action:

☒ **Vegetation Monitoring** ☐ **Wildlife Monitoring**

Monitoring Information: We have completed pre burn monitoring. The forest will continue to monitor at one, three and five year intervals.

Grazing Management:

SPECIES BENEFITING

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Mexican Spotted Owl | Northern Goshawk | Three-toed Woodpecker | Boreal Owl |
| Broad-tailed Hummingbird | Williamson's Sapsucker | Mule Deer | Northern Flying Squirrel |
| Rubber Boa | Elk | Merriam's Wild Turkey | |

Monday, March 16, 2009 1:37:30 PM

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LAND OWNERSHIP

| Owner | Acres |
|--------------|------------|
| USFS | 167 |
| Total | 167 |

PROPOSED FUNDING

| Source | Amount Requested | Date Approved | Amount Approved |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Unfunded Balance | \$20,500.00 | | \$0.00 |
| USFS | \$48,375.00 | | \$48,375.00 |
| Totals | \$68,875.00 | | \$48,375.00 |

PROPOSED BUDGET

| Item | Description | DWR Account | Partner Contrib. |
|----------------------|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| Other | RX fire on 167 acres and related costs | \$20,500.00 | \$0.00 |
| Contractual Services | Thinning | \$0.00 | \$22,275.00 |
| Contractual Services | Lop and Scatter | \$0.00 | \$23,100.00 |
| Personal Services | USFS Planning work | \$0.00 | \$3,000.00 |
| Totals | | \$20,500.00 | \$48,375.00 |

Project Map:

